



A Newsletter for Recycling Coordinators

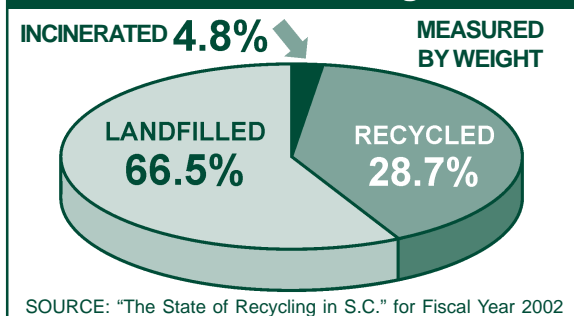
DHEC releases recycling rate for FY 2002

South Carolinians recycled 28.7 percent of the municipal solid waste generated in Fiscal Year (FY) 2002. While the rate didn't change much from last year's rate of 28.96 percent, both local governments and businesses have faced difficulties in maintaining or expanding their waste reduction and recycling programs.

For local governments, funds appropriated from the Solid Waste Trust Funds that are, in part, distributed to communities in the form of recycling grants, have been reduced. With the current budget crisis, reduced financial support continues to be a concern. Many counties cite that their waste reduction and recycling performance is directly linked to funding. When grant funds are not available, two negative impacts may occur: 1) new programs or services cannot be added, and 2) if the trend of reduced funding continues, some existing programs or services may be reduced or discontinued.

Fewer business recycling efforts may be the result of any of the following factors, mainly related to slow economic times: several counties reported business closings and employee layoffs in the past; decreased prices for some commodities; and reduced interest in reporting recycling figures to county representatives.

Where does solid waste go in S.C.?



The amount of municipal solid waste (MSW) generated in FY 2002 was almost 4.4 million tons. Of that, 2.9 million tons were disposed of in landfills, about 209,000 tons were incinerated and the remaining 1.2 million tons, or 28.7 percent, were recycled. The rate is six points short of the 35 percent recycling goal.

S.C. residents generated 4.2 pounds of MSW per person per day in FY 2002, the same rate as FY 2001. Although no decrease in the waste reduction rate

occurred in the past fiscal year, it is still almost one pound more than the waste reduction goal of 3.5 pounds per person per day.

Overall, 10 counties met the recycling goal and 23 counties achieved the waste reduction goal. Only four counties met both goals.

Generally, recycling is successful in South Carolina. But while much has been done, much more remains to be done to reach the state's recycling and waste reduction goals.

For the complete "State of Recycling in South Carolina" annual report for Fiscal Year 2002, visit www.scdhec.net/recycle or call 1-800-768-7348.

DHEC announces recycling totals for state agencies, colleges

State agencies as well as colleges and universities, recycled nearly 15,000 tons of material in Fiscal Year (FY) 2002, according to reports provided to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). In addition, state agencies reported that about 10 percent of their total purchases were for recycled content products while colleges and universities reported about 7 percent.

The S.C. Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 (Act) was amended in October 2000 to require state agencies, colleges and universities to report amounts of materials being recycled and purchases of recycled content products as well as identify waste reduction practices.

This report reflects the first full FY data was collected. A one-page reporting form was provided to 73 state agencies and 30 colleges and universities. Sixty-one state agencies and 28 colleges and universities reported. The complete report is available at www.scdhec.net/recycle.

Did you know?

The S.C. Solid Waste Policy and Management Act of 1991 (Act) originally set a recycling goal of 25 percent and a goal of reducing by 30 percent the waste disposed at MSW landfills and incinerators. Both rates were calculated by weight. Both were measured from the total amount of waste generated. Both were measured from a baseline of Fiscal Year (FY) 1993 and were to be met by FY 1997.

In October 2000, the Act was amended with a goal of recycling 35 percent of the MSW stream and reducing MSW generation to 3.5 pounds per person per day by 2005.

Clarendon County, Francis Marion University face similar recycling challenges, goals for 2003-04

Each issue of "S.C. Recycles" will feature a brief question-and-answer interview with a local government and college/university recycling coordinator. The purpose of the interview is to note the good work being done and the challenges faced as well as offer recycling coordinators the chance to learn and network with each other.

This issue features Madeline Braxton, Clarendon County's recycling coordinator, and Frank Braddock, recycling coordinator for Francis Marion University (FMU). Braxton has been Clarendon County's recycling coordinator since December 2002, but has been involved in the county's recycling program since 1994. Braxton also is responsible for the county's litter control program.

Braddock supervises about 50 employees and is responsible for housekeeping, groundskeeping, setting up for campus events, hazardous materials, underground storage tanks and the motor pool. Braddock, who is from Florence, has been with FMU for 21 years and has been recycling coordinator since 1994. FMU's program collects paper, cardboard, aluminum, plastic, scrap metal and used oil. In addition, FMU mulches and composts.

MADELINE BRAXTON, CLARENDON COUNTY

Telephone: (803) 435-9384

E-mail: clarendonrecycling@sc.rr.com

Q: What unique challenges do you face?

A: It is my goal to capture and maintain control of all county recyclables and use available resources to make this project grow. This will be a big challenge considering the concept will need to be emphasized throughout the entire county and I would like to see this as a community effort. We do have a "litter control" team that is dedicated to county cleanup. Now if we can just introduce the "recycling" challenge to all citizens.

Q: What is your No. 1 priority?

A: My No. 1 priority would be to implement a true recycling concept

and program here in which everyone participates. I would like this to include the schools, private industry and all the citizens of Clarendon County.

Q: What gives you the most pride in your job?

A: Results! We have been able to upgrade and improve the appearance of our recycling centers that have been greatly supported through the DHEC grants we have received.

With these grant monies, we have also purchased educational materials. I have made presentations on "recyclables" in our local schools. This has been an interest and desire of mine since 1989, when I first became affiliated with Clarendon County Solid Waste. I knew that in order to successfully implement such a program, it would require education. As the saying goes "Education begins in the classroom." The kids go home and actually teach the parents what recyclables are.

I have recently started a "recycling office paper" program for all county employees. It is neat to see that this project is something in which everyone can participate and benefit. So I would have to say that I am most proud of the results of not only my efforts but also of the efforts of others! We have adopted the local Chamber of Commerce's logo, Seymore Clean – Stash your Trash! This is proof that everyone in Clarendon County has a vested interest in keeping our rural county beautiful! We will enhance this by educating everyone to "stash their trash" in its proper recycling bin!

FRANK BRADDOCK, FMU

Telephone: (843) 661-1108

E-mail: fbraddock@fmarion.edu

Q: What unique challenges do you face?

A: Resource allocation. Participation in the program and funding have been the main challenges.

Q: What is your No. 1 priority?

A: My No. 1 priority is making sure that the program is done right.

Q: What gives you the most pride in your job?

A: In the beginning it was getting the program in place. It began as a pilot program funded by the Sustainable Universities Initiative to determine if the FMU students would recycle. They did! Now FMU recycles because it is the right thing to do.

Q: Anything else you would like to add?

A: I'm very proud to be at FMU. This has been my home away from home. We're doing a lot of good things and we can always try to do more. We also would like to thank DHEC for the big recycling containers and the Sustainable Universities Initiative grant programs for the individual dorm room sorting bins. Dr. Tim Shannon and Dr. Kay Lawrimore along with Lisa Pike wrote the grants and worked with honors students on the recycling project pilot study.

County Updates

Please note that Jennifer McAdams, environmental educator for the City of Rock Hill, is now **Jennifer Wilford**. Her e-mail address has changed to jwilford@ci.rock-hill.sc.us.

Johnny Reed is the new agency recycling coordinator for the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Berkeley County has an opening for a recycling coordinator. Anyone interested in more information on this position can contact Annette Harmon at (843) 572-4400 ext. 3302 or ajharmon@bcwsa.com.

"South Carolina Recycles" is published quarterly by DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling. Editor: Elizabeth Rosinski; Assistant Editor: Richard Chesley; Layout/Design: Gregg Glymph; Director: William W. Culler. SAVE NATURAL RESOURCES by requesting your copy of "South Carolina Recycles" electronically. Please call 1-800-768-7348 to receive your next issue by e-mail.

OR-0388 7/03

Printed on RECYCLED Paper

What is Earth 911?

It is the mission of Earth 911 to empower the public through community-specific resources to improve everyone's quality of life. While sustainable prevention programs are by far the best way to protect our nation's environment, the costs associated with many of these programs can be astronomical. That is why the use of this public/private partnership is so important in effectuating prevention ideals. Through the partnership, economies of scale and scope are achieved, promoting this public service across the nation and centralizing environmental resources into one user-friendly network.

Through a single toll-free phone call to **1-800-CLEANUP** or the use of the Web site (www.earth911.org), you can access several sections of community-specific environmental information at no cost to the user or taxpayer.

For community-specific information, simply enter your ZIP code, and the Web site or our hot line will easily guide you to information about the following:

- Recycling Centers
- Green Shopping
- Energy Conservation
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Kids / Environmental Education
- Composting

DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling is working with Earth 911 to gather street numbers, street names and zip codes for all local government recycling centers in South Carolina. If you have not already done so, please send the required information to the Office by fax to **(803) 896-4001** or e-mail to rosinsev@dhec.sc.gov.

Thanks for your cooperation with this project. If you wish to update your own information, please visit www.earth911.org and contact the Web master. You will be given a user ID and password to update your recycling sites.

Grants Update

All local governments that applied for fiscal year (FY) 2004 Used Oil, Waste Tire and Automobile Dismantler Grants should have received their grant offers. Please double check with your county administrators or city managers to make sure they have signed the agreements and sent them back to the Office. When we have received the signed grant agreements, we will let you know that you can begin work on this year's projects.

The Used Oil Grants were primarily dedicated to setting up new oil recycling locations and funding oil filter collection. Waste Tire Grants were awarded almost exclusively for contract costs. Of course, both grants included funds for travel and public education materials, as well. A total of \$523,000 was awarded for used oil projects, tire funding was made in the amount of \$480,000, with an additional \$90,000 awarded for the management of tires accepted from salvage yards.

The FY 2004 Solid Waste Grants are still in the review process. The Office expects to make their recommendations to the Solid Waste Advisory Council in August. Applications for the Solid Waste Grants were made available to local governments that had not met their waste reduction or recycling goals. The intent of those awards will be to maximize the state's recycling rates by establishing programs at the local level. A total of \$200,000 is being made available with a \$50,000 per-grant cap.

The Office also expects to offer both collegiate and recycling education grants during FY 2004. If you have schools or colleges in your area that might be interested, please have them contact Tina Lindler at **(803) 896-4235** or lindleic@dhec.sc.gov.

If you have any questions about any grant program, you also can contact Jana White at **(803) 896-4221** or whitejm@dhec.sc.gov.

EDITOR'S FOCUS

November 15. Recognize the date? You should. It is America Recycles Day (ARD), first started in 1997 to educate the public about the importance of recycling and buying products made from recycled materials. Chances are, you already knew this. Whether it was at an RC workshop, CRA, Action training or any number of Office-sponsored events – ARD and November 15 were mentioned.

We don't do it to drive you crazy – it's just that we are more passionate about this day than Earth Day. We support ARD because it allows us to focus directly on what we do best – telling people how important it is to reduce their waste, to recycle or reuse almost everything they generate and finally, to put their money where their actions are – back into recycled content products.

ARD is easy, well organized and requires as little or as much effort as you wish to put into it. It can be tailored to fit any situation – from an elementary school to a high-end industry's employees.

It is designed around the effort to get as many individuals across our state to sign challenge cards, promising to recycle, recycle more or purchase products made from recycled materials.

Last year, more than 31,000 ARD challenge cards were collected in South Carolina. More than 15,000 cards were collected from schools, colleges, special events and the Internet. About 16,000 came from county programs, and of that number, more than 9,000 came from one county. That leaves about 7,000 cards collected from other counties. Clearly, we'd like more counties to participate and collect cards.

Our hope is that you weave some or all of the ARD effort into your existing recycling program, whether you have an educational component or not. Six years have gone by since this event was created and yet, the number of counties participating has remained essentially the same.

I do not doubt that each and everyone one of you has too much to

See Editor, page 4

Used oil recycling by the numbers...*

Amount of Used Oil Collected
from Do-It-Yourselfers (DIY)
in Calendar Year 2002:
1,160,865 GALLONS

Amount of Used Oil Collected
Since DIY Program Began in 1990:
**MORE THAN 9 MILLION
GALLONS**

Number of DIY
Used Oil Collection Sites:
MORE THAN 700

Counties Collecting Used Oil Filters:
42 (up from 35 last year)

Used Oil Filters Collected
for Recycling:
210 TONS

Counties Collecting Oil Bottles:
38 (up from 31 last year)

Oil Bottles Collected for Recycling:
92 TONS

Number of Farmer Oil Tanks:
14 IN 11 COUNTIES

Number of
Oil/Gasoline Mixture Tanks:
18 IN 16 COUNTIES

* From the draft copy of the "Used Oil Recycling
in South Carolina 2002 Annual Report."

RC Calendar

JULY 22

"Action for a cleaner tomorrow"
("Action") Training Workshop, Laurens

JULY 23

"Action" Training Workshop, Clemson
University

JULY 26

Household Hazardous Materials
Collection Event, North Augusta

JULY 28

"Action" Training Workshop,
Williamston

AUGUST 9

GROW Workshop, Roper Mountain
Science Center, Greenville

AUGUST 23

GROW Workshop, Paper Stock
Education Center, Columbia

AUGUST 25

"Action" Training Workshop, Conway

AUGUST 27

"Action" Training Workshop,
Orangeburg

SEPTEMBER 10

"Action" Training Workshop,
Charleston Southern University

SEPTEMBER 11

"Action" Training Workshop,
College of Charleston

SEPTEMBER 14-17

National Recycling Coalition's
Annual Congress and Exposition,
Baltimore, Maryland

NOTE: Recycling coordinators are
encouraged to attend "Action" trainings
and Green Driver presentations that
take place in their county. It is a good
opportunity to network with teachers
and students in your community. To learn
more, call Angie Perry at 1-800-326-
2630.

Editor, continued from page 3

do. If you do nothing else, request
cards for your attendants to distribute
at recycling centers, or enough cards
to place in the student mail boxes on
campus (better yet – have them do it
electronically) or place an ad in your
local paper with a copy of the card.

This fall, the Office will make
available ARD challenge cards and
brochures for anyone to distribute in
their community. All the cards are
then collected for a drawing to give
away prizes in November. And we
hope, in the process, you have given
somebody a few minutes worth of
recycling information that they will
take home with them.

ARD's theme is "Make Every Day
America Recycles Day." Do what you
can to make ARD a part of your day –
especially on November 15.

Elizabeth Rosinski, Editor

'Crusher' repaired in Lexington County

Lexington County's used oil filter crusher
is operational once again. If you have
previously taken your used oil filters to
Lexington County and would like to
continue, contact Donna Hendrix at (803)
755-3325 or dhendrix@lex-co.com.

If you would like more information on
Lexington County's used oil recycling
program and are interested in sending
your used oil filters and/or oil bottles to
Lexington County, contact Donna Hendrix
at the number or Web address provided.



DHRC
Office of Solid Waste
Reduction and Recycling
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201-1708

